

# The Dead Horse DISPATCH

April 2010

A newsletter by and for the volunteers of Dead Horse Ranch State Park

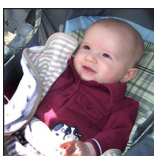


A popular spot at the Volunteer Venture was the give-a-way table, loaded with goodies if your number was drawn. However, it ended up that there were so many items to give away that nearly everyone got something. A good meal was catered by local eatery Randall's Restaurant. The owner's wife is Ranger Linda Hauk (office manager at DHRSP).

## Volunteer Venture



A tent created a shady spot for volunteers from all over the state at Volunteer Venture, held this year at Rockin' River Ranch, now part of DHRSP. Nicole Armstrong-Best (director of AZSP volunteer program) is speaking to the group, and drawing numbers for door prizes.



The youngest visitor at the park was Nathan, son of Rebecca and Eric Buzonas, volunteer coordinator at Dead Horse. He seemed to enjoy all the attention, pretty much the way his daddy does!




The site stewards discuss and photograph an agave roasting pit near a ruin above Camp Verde. About 40 people also got to look at a larger ruin, 50 to 60 rooms, nearby. The tours were led by Ken Lamont and Ned Greeneltch. More than 800 site stewards across Arizona help to protect resources which are in their area.

submitted by attendee, Nan Hephner




Renee Bahl (director of AZSP) talked at length with interested volunteers about the state of the parks, and some bills that might help with funding down the road.



**Y'all come!**  
to the  
**5th annual  
Cowboy  
Potluck  
and  
Chili  
Cookoff**

**Monday, March 29, 2010**  
**Raven Loop Ramada 5 p.m.**  
**Dead Horse Ranch State Park**

Volunteer Recognition  
Horse Shoes  
Fun & Games for kids  
All volunteers and  
ranger families welcome



Photos from the planned burn of the Dead Horse Ranch Debris Pit, March 18, 2010.



submitted by Les Bovee



Emerson Trushel,  
Bill Turner,  
Justin Swiger,  
Tony Viotti,  
Jack Pratt,  
and Margie Sanchez





# Verde Valley Birding and Nature Festival

10th Anniversary



## April 22-25, 2010

Cottonwood \* Central Arizona \* Sedona



### Dead Horse Ranch State Park



## Plea to All Volunteers and All Who Would Volunteer!

We need your help, more than ever before, for the Verde Valley Birding Festival. We are pushing the "Kid's Day" events and need volunteer's help for that event especially. The "Kid's Day" events will be held on Saturday, April 24, 10 am to 2 pm. Please come anytime in between those hours and earlier for setup and, if possible, later for cleanup too. Please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Ranger Eric Buzonas, to help with kid projects, setup, etc., by calling 928-634-5283 or email [ebuzonas@azstateparks.gov](mailto:ebuzonas@azstateparks.gov).

## Volunteers Raise Awareness of DHRSP



Park Manager Les Bovee, just happened to stop by the Volunteer Booth on its first day at Safeway. Meanwhile, volunteer Gary Munsell talks with former Ranger Larry Busby, who managed Buckskin Mountain SP, about the upcoming VV Bird Festival.

Some of the volunteers at DHRSP decided to see what could be done using volunteers to promote the park in the local community. Nothing political is involved, and it does not involve the rangers, except to keep them apprised of what we are trying to accomplish. Gary and Sharon Munson, along with Pat Hawker and Bill LeFleur, have been instrumental in getting this movement going. We are now setting up our booth at several key locations in Cottonwood. The goal is to provide information about the park, and let people know the myriad of activities available to them, just across the 10th Street bridge. Nan Hephner created two photo boards, which show various activities at the park. Bob Akey built us a sign that says "Explore! Dead Horse Ranch State Park." That goes along with a new brochure, along with a few photos, put together by Nan, which goes into detail about activities at the park.

So far, several volunteers have worked booths set up at Sears, Fry's, Safeway and Ace. Gary is hoping to get us a spot at Walmart. Some of those involved include, Gary & Sharon Munson, Bill LaFleur & Pat Hawker, Jim Harris & Maryan Pharo, John Ward, Karen & Emerson Trushel, Keith & Judi Mangels, Wes & Carolyn Scott, Nan Hephner, Bob Akey, and others. Pat provided her kayak and bicycle as props for the booth.

Maybe other state park volunteers will start similar programs, so that town residents become more aware of the parks in their communities, and more supportive when a closure threat looms in the near future.

*submitted by Nan Hephner*



## Horseshoes and Baggo Tournaments



When the straw hat blew off the horse skull way up on the top of the bookshelves at the DHRSP meeting, there were a lot of “oh mys,” and “what shall we do, it is too high for us delicate females!” All of a sudden, out of the quiet and seemingly out of nowhere, Ranger Randy came leaping into the fray to perform a miracle rescue. He quickly determined that even he could not reach the problem area to fix the hat. So he dashed through the hallway and came back carrying a stool. Alas, it was still not enough. But not to be outdone or defeated, Ranger Randy grabbed a stick, stretched his muscled torso as far as possible, and after a couple of tries, pulled the hat back onto the bald steed’s head. When he descended the ladder, a smile of “victory” and pure exhilaration lit up his face from ear to ear. Cheers to Ranger Randy, who came to our rescue yet again!

A Baggo tournament was held, and as you can see by John Ward, (far right) form was everything, even in a light drizzle. Other participants, left to right, are Volunteers Wes Scott and Norm Hephner, Asst. Manager Justin Swiger, former volunteers Cyril and Mary Soukup, and volunteer Karen Trushel. Behind John is his opponent, Ranger Margie Sanchez.



The semifinalists gathered for a portrait after the two dudes in the center won the championship. Asst. Manager Justin Swiger and partner (former volunteer) Cyril Soukup, were the winners. Cyril and his wife, Mary, volunteered at the park four years ago, and have remained friends of Dead Horse and its volunteers since their departure. Cyril filled in for



Volunteer Jim Harris, who has a bit of a medical problem that kept him from throwing. (So did Cyril win, or did Jim?) The runners up were Volunteer Carl Hartman, and Ranger Tony Viotti. Prizes, if any, will be handed out at the Wild West Chili Cookoff Monday, March 29. Just a reminder, you can still attend, sign up as a chili judge or entry, and come and join the fun! *submitted by Eric Buzonas*

Dear Friends , We are going to be away from our regular email server for a while. We will be on a cruise and then when we come back we will be going up to Show Low to our summer place until November 1st. During this time we will not have high speed internet. We do pick up our messages on the web mail, but it is limited. So, we have the following request. We don’t want to lose contact with you but do request that emails be limited to text messages. No pictures, attachments, forwards, WMV files, or any big files please.  
Thanks for understanding, Bud and Loma Jenkins



## Gone Fishing!

*Despite cloudy skies and chilly temperatures (41 degrees when this photo was taken), the fishermen still made it out to Dead Horse Ranch State Park on Monday (February 22nd). Here, Feather Ross, of Cottonwood, displays a carp that easily exceeds 12 pounds. **Don’t worry, he didn’t throw it back in!!***  
*submitted by Randy Victory*



*(above) In the early morning, Volunteer Jim Harris took this photo of the Bald Eagles in the lagoons. They are also frequent fishermen and really enjoy the trout stocking at DHRSP.*



*A fishing clinic was held for kids at DHRSP this month. Arizona Game and Fish brought in a shipment of trout on Friday. On Saturday, kids coming to the clinic got free fishing rods and information was provided by the Game and Fish. The project was a big hit and the lagoons were lined with participants of all ages. And yes, that is Ranger Randy Victory at right taking photos of the clinic, as Dispatch photographer, Nan Hephner, captures him at work(?).*

*submitted by Nan Hephner*



## Volunteer News Coming & Goings

- \* April 1st Frankenrose Quail Loop #41 (No Joke!)
- \* Laurie Blitsch back to site #42 for 1 month (Just returned from Bluegrass Festival!)
- \* Laurie Blitsch leaving April 30th
- \* Jack & Robbie Bard Coopers Hawk April 26th
- \* Norm & Nan Hephner leaving April 30th (Carolyn is sobbing!)
- \* Jim & Maryan Harris leaving April 30th
- \* Gary & Sharon Munson leaving April 30th (Rumor has it they're heading back to the North Pole!)
- \* John & Wanda Ward leaving April 27th
- \* Karen & Emerson Trushel leaving April 30th

## April MileStones

- 3-Ruby Stolze
- 4-Joan Gray
- 6-Emerson Trushel
- 10-Toni Mann
- 11-Bill & Anne Zeller
- 13-Tom Sanor
- 15-Brenda Mullins
- 20-Anne Howe
- 20-John Pauly
- 21-Shirley Oltmanns
- 27-Russ Jones

## March MileStone missed...

- 22-Eric & Rebecca Buzonas

## Dates to Remember April

- Tuesdays - 6:30 Gamernight, Greenway, bring snack, beverage, game, learn a new one
- 4 - Easter Sunday
- 5 - Volunteer Meeting, 9 am
- 19 - Volunteer Meeting, 9 am
- April 21-25 - Verde Valley Birding and Nature Festival

*In answer to Carolyn's question, "What Happened To Gary?" Sharon Munson wrote back, "He cut his foot with a chainsaw last Thursday afternoon. A VERY small cut on the top of his foot, no ligaments or tendons or bone cut, only 12 stitches. Eric and Justin say he still can't get out of working. Saw the doctor today and he is doing fine."*

## Bobber Memorial



*Honoring our Bobberman, Roy Johnson, were Volunteers: Sandy Kendall, Bill LaFleur, Pat Hawker, Carol Johnson, Nan Hephner, and Manager Les Bovee.*

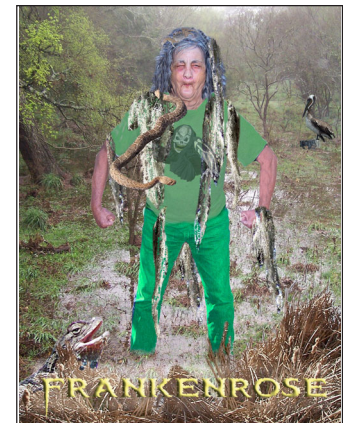


*Mrs. Johnson is holding the collage, made by Nan and beautifully framed by Pat and Bill. Les is holding the painted rock made by Mac, when Roy achieved 1000 bobbbers.*

It was a very nice get-together and many shared memories about how bobbbers were obtained and who fell in the water, etc. Mrs. Johnson shed a few tears, but she is doing well.

*submitted by Nan*

*Carolyn, thanks for the news letter. We like hearing all the accomplishments that rangers and volunteers have done. I filled out another volunteer form with address, phone number and e-mail last time Jud and I were there. Soooo glad to hear that our favorite park has been able to stay open. Let us know if we can help in the future. Till then Jud and JoAnn Munsell*



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## Recipes

### Oriental Salad by Sharon Rooker

- 1 head Napa Cabbage shredded
- 3 green onions chopped
- 1 Top Ramen (chicken)
- 8 oz. chopped almonds
- 2 T Sesame Seeds
- Frozen peas
- Break noodles up, mix in almonds and sesame seeds and toast to golden brown (don't use oil).
- Dressing:
- 2/3 cup oil
- 1/ cup vinegar
- 2 T sugar
- Ramen flavor packet
- Mix all together, pour over cabbage, chill and serve

*At last the weather here in Florida is beginning to warm up. We had shorts on yesterday for only about the third time. We hope we will be able to get to the beach soon, until now the wind has been too cold to make beach going enjoyable. Hope we can get a little sun tan before we head home (Canada). Florida has had more rain than usual. The river here in Myakka River State Park is higher than usual, so that means it is great for boating and kayaking. The bird life is also more abundant this year. Hope you are all well, Anne & Tom Howe*